

Southern California Association of Governments

Winter/Spring 2003



SCAG's Six-County Region

**SCAG's Mission:
Leadership, vision
and progress,
which promote
economic growth,
personal well-
being and livable
communities for
all Southern
Californians.**



What is SCAG?

The Southern California Association of Governments is the largest regional planning agency in the nation, functioning as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for six counties. SCAG represents:

- Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura Counties
- 185 Cities
- 38,000 sq. miles
- 17 million people
- 10th largest world economy

What does SCAG do?

SCAG develops long-term solutions for regional challenges such as transportation, air quality, housing, growth, hazardous waste and water quality. Since these issues cross city and county boundaries, SCAG works with cities, counties and public agencies in the six-county region to develop plans and strategies that will:

- Enable the efficient movement of people, goods and information;
- Enhance economic growth and international trade; and
- Improve the environment and quality of life for all residents.

SCAG also is responsible for managing state-mandated programs such as the Regional Housing Needs Assessment. Furthermore, the agency acts as an information clearing house, providing mapping, forecasting and regional statistics and data.

What is the RTP?

SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan is a comprehensive 20-year transportation plan that provides a vision for the future of our multi-modal transportation system and specifies how we can achieve that vision. The RTP identifies major challenges as well as potential opportunities associated with growth, transportation finances, the future of airports in the region, and impending transportation system deficiencies that could result from unprecedented growth projections for the region.

Who decides what to do?

SCAG's decisions are made by a Regional Council composed of elected officials from 64 districts. It currently has 74 voting members that meet monthly.

SCAG's Accomplishments

Some key accomplishments include originating the Alameda Corridor concept; incubating what is now known as Metrolink; conducting water quality studies that led to the creation of Heal the Bay; and demonstrating transportation conformity to ensure federal funding for the region's transportation projects.

For more information or to access SCAG's wealth of planning and policy resources, visit:

<http://www.scag.ca.gov>

Resolving Regional Challenges

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